

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 have been amended. No new material is introduced herein. Claims 4, 9 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are pending.

Claim 5 has been objected to as lacking antecedent basis. In particular, claim 5 includes the phrase "said specified part of said example is replaced". Claim 5 has been amended accordingly.

Claims 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, these claims are drawn to "a program". Claims 7 and 8 have been amended accordingly. Namely, the features of dependent claims 9 and 10, respectively, have been incorporated into claims 7 and 8. Claims 9 and 10 have been canceled. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Koizumi et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,917,920). Claims 4, 9 and 10 have been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted, however, that the remaining claims are now patentable over the cited art for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1, as amended, includes features neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited art, namely:

...speech inputting means of inputting speech of one sentence including plural words of a first language...

...speech recognizing means of recognizing said input speech...

...first extracting/displaying means of extracting and displaying examples which are one or plural word strings of said first language, said examples corresponding to a result of said speech recognition and based on a correspondence between said examples and a second language...

...conversion object selecting means ... selecting one of said examples...

...screen display specifying means of specifying at least a part of said selected example by manually highlighting said at least said part of said selected example...

...second extracting/displaying means of, when said at least said part of said selected example is specified, extracting and displaying candidates of a class from a

database free of a speech input which corresponds to contents of said specified at least said part of said selected example...

...candidate selecting means of selecting words of the same class out of said displayed candidates...

...converting means of determining said object of conversion to said second language on the basis of said selected example and said selected words of the same class... (Emphasis Added)

These features are disclosed, for example, p. 25, line 2 - p. 28, line 12; p. 29, line 12- p. 30, line 22; and Figures 13, 18, 21 and 22. The features of canceled claim 4 have been incorporated into amended claim 1.

Koizumi et al. disclose a speech translation device that is configured to retrieve and display sentence templates in response to a keyword orally inputted by a user (Col. 4, lines 62-64). Keyword speech recognition is performed on the inputted word to obtain sentence templates (Col. 6, line 50 - Col. 7, line 15). Some of the sentence templates include a slot where underlined words indicate that these words are replaceable (Col. 7, line 66 - Col. 8, line 5). For sentence templates with slots, a user speaks the sentence template including replacement words for the slots and sentence speech recognition is performed (Col. 8, line 49- Col. 9, line 25). Thus, Koizumi et al. recognizes "a first speech, retrieving sentence templates related to the first speech, recognizing a second speech, replacing an expression within one of the retrieved sentence templates based on the second speech" (Col. 2, line 65- Col. 3, line 1).

Koizumi et al. do not disclose or suggest Applicants claimed features of "...speech inputting means of inputting speech of one sentence including plural words of a first language... speech recognizing means of recognizing said input speech... first extracting/displaying means of extracting and displaying examples which are one or plural word strings of said first language, said examples corresponding to a result of said speech recognition and based on a correspondence between said examples and a second language..." (emphasis added). These features are neither disclosed nor suggested by Koizumi et al. Koizumi et al. disclose recognizing a keyword and retrieving sentence templates related to the recognized keyword. Koizumi et al. do not suggest that a spoken sentence is recognized and extracted to be an object of translation. In Col. 1, lines 55-59, Koizumi et al. discloses that translation devices which translate an arbitrarily inputted sentence" may not sufficiently accomplish its object of supporting conversations in foreign languages ... because of the user's inability of immediately

remembering a sentence to input" and thus a direct recognition of a sentence may contradict the teachings of Koizumi et al.

Furthermore, Koizumi et al. do not disclose or suggest Applicants claimed features of "...screen display specifying means of specifying at least a part of said selected example by manually highlighting said at least said part of said selected example... second extracting/displaying means of... extracting and displaying candidates of a class from a database free of a speech input which corresponds to contents of said specified at least said part of said selected example..." (emphasis added). These features are neither disclosed nor suggested by Koizumi et al. As discussed above, Koizumi et al. disclose speech recognition is performed on a sentence template to replace an expression within the sentence template based on the recognized speech (Col. 2, line 65- col. 3, line 1).

In other words, the present invention extracts examples which are one or plural words that correspond to a result of speech recognition performed directly on the input sentence. One of the extracted examples can be selected by the user without the operation of steps 1306-1309 of Applicants' Fig. 13. For example, more sentences may be added to example database 1205 of Applicants' Fig. 12. However, in Koizumi et al, a user does not speak a first sentence directly, but rather spoken keyword, and thus the speech translation device does not recognize a first sentence directly. Koizumi et al. thus include a second speech recognition step to recognize a sentence template according to the keyword. Therefore, Koizumi et al. do not include all of the features of amended claim 1. Accordingly, allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, 5 and 7 include all of the features of claim 1 from which they depend. Accordingly, claims 2, 3, 5 and 7 are also patentable over the cited art.

Claim 6 has been amended. Although not identical to claim 1, claim 6 includes similar features to claim 1 which are neither disclosed or suggested by the cited art. Accordingly, allowance of claim 6 is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 include all of the features of claim 6 from which it depends. Accordingly, claim 8 is also patentable over the cited art.

Application No.: 10/056,424
Amendment Dated October 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 18, 2005

MTS-3301US

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

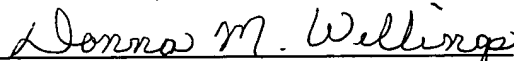
AR/DMG/dmw

Dated: October 18, 2005

P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 18, 2005.



Donna M. Wellings

DMW_I:\MTS\3301US\AMEND02.DOC